

B-3007 - B-3015

1810-25/1850-51

738-722 S. Charles St. (West side)

Baltimore, Md.

Private access

738 and 722 S. Charles St. (the two corner houses) are the oldest houses on this side of the 700 block of S. Charles St., having been built in the period between 1810 and 1825, or perhaps earlier. 738 S. Charles St. is two and a half stories in height, four bays wide on S. Charles St. and two bays wide on W. Montgomery St., with a dormer window facing both streets. The first floor area most recently served as a local grocery and there is a late, corner storefront entrance set diagonally to the corner of S. Charles and Montgomery Streets. 722 S. Charles St. is a two and a half story, two bay wide brick house built by a local house carpenter, Thomas Hollingsworth, that shows the one room deep floor plan used in the earliest Federal-style houses built in the area. The remaining houses on the street are all three stories in height and two bays wide. All were originally built with gable roofs, like the present-day 734, 732, 730, 726, and 724 S. Charles St., but 728 and 736 S. Charles St. were remodeled after the Civil War in the currently fashionable Italianate style and now have shed roofs and bracketed cornices. This group of three story houses was built in 1850-1851 to serve as combination storefront/residences for the increasing number of small shopkeepers moving into the area to meet the needs of the growing population.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-3007
MAGI 0430072304

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

738 S. Charles St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
___ STRUCTURE
___ SITE
___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
___ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
___ IN PROCESS
___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

___ OCCUPIED
☒ UNOCCUPIED
___ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
___ YES: RESTRICTED
___ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

___ AGRICULTURE ___ MUSEUM
___ COMMERCIAL ___ PARK
___ EDUCATIONAL ___ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
___ ENTERTAINMENT ___ RELIGIOUS
___ GOVERNMENT ___ SCIENTIFIC
___ INDUSTRIAL ___ TRANSPORTATION
___ MILITARY ☒ OTHER: restoration contemplated

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This 2 1/2 story brick house is located on the northwest corner of Charles and Montgomery Streets. It is unusually constructed, with a three-sided gable roof--one gable facing Charles St., one gable facing Montgomery St., and one gable facing diagonally onto the corner. There are two dormer windows, one facing on Charles St., one on Montgomery St. The buildings is four bays wide along Charles St. and extends back on Montgomery St. two bays. Along the Montgomery St. side there is a two-story addition set back from the street.

The main structure is 2 1/2 stories in height, 26 1/2' wide, and extends back along Montgomery St. about . The addition extends back another . The main structure is constructed in Flemish bond; the addition in common bond. The steeply pitched gable roof has its original seamed tin covering. Rectangular chimneys rise along both the north and west walls of the house. A two-tiered brick cornice extends along both the Charles and Montgomery St. facades. All of the window openings are surmounted by splayed brick lintels. The sills are wood. No original sash remains and the openings are boarded, except for one dormer window which retains its 6/6/ lights.

The original ground floor fenestration pattern has been concealed behind a store front that wraps around the corner of the building. The current entrance is at the corner of Charles and Montgomery St., set obliquely to the street facades. The door is set back well under the second story corner. Two three-sided store front windows project to either side--one facing Charles St., one facing Montgomery St. Their original glass panels were supported on plain brick bases. The store front windows are currently plastered over. The entire corner shop front is surmounted by a plain, slightly projecting wooden cornice, with a deep, plain freize area capped by a simple crown molding.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c.1800 - 1815

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Orman Jarvis

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is important both for its unusual corner configuration and for the fact that it is one of the few surviving Federal style houses built in the early nineteenth century in Federal Hill. Its first owner, Orman Jarvis, leased the lot on which the house stands (and which at that time also included the lot at 4-6 W. Montgomery Sts.) from John Eager Howard in 1797. Jarvis was both a carter and a grocer.¹ In 1816 Jarvis sold the house to a Thomas Smith for \$550.² Smith was a carter and was definitely at this location in 1819.³ At a much later date the first floor area of the house was remodeled to serve as a store-front and the original entrance and first floor windows were replaced by the corner door and shop windows.

The house has recently been sold by the City to a private owner and hopefully will be restored in the near future.

¹Baltimore City Land Records, Liber WG 52, Folio 538; Baltimore City Directory, 1802, 1816

²Ibid., Liber WG 136, Folio 421.

³Baltimore City Directory, 1819

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles

DATE

3/79

STREET & NUMBER

1745 Circle Rd.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ruxton

STATE

Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

738 S. Charles St.

Description

*It is unusual -
with a 3 sided
gable roof +
2 dormer windows
one facing
Charles St.
one facing
Montg. St.*

is located on the

This large 2 1/2 story brick house occupies the entire northwest corner of Charles and Montgomery Streets. It is four bays wide on Charles St. and two bays wide on Montgomery. The hipped roof, with single dormer windows facing both Charles and Montgomery streets, is covered with tin.

The house is 2 1/2 stories high, 24' 6" wide (along Charles) St., and 18' wide (along Mont. St.)

The house is constructed of Flemish bond and a simple brick cornice extends around the two street front facades. On the Montgomery St. side the house has a 2 story addition built in common bond. At present the main entrance to the building is at the corner of Charles and Montgomery, within a late, plain wooden storefront. There is no basement.

There is a 2' string addition

The window openings are surmounted by splayed brick lintels. The sills are wood. At present the first floor openings are plastered over and the second floor openings boarded. One dormer window retains its 6/6 lights.

The gable 3 sided gable roof has its ridge stained for eaves. The dormer windows facing Mont. St. have plain pedimented tops. The dormer facing Charles St. has a pedimented top. A brick chimney rises along both the N. walls of the hse. A 2-fernd brick (chimney) extends along both the W. Montg. + Ch. St. facades.

Significance

Date c. 1797-98

The orig. 1st floor plan has been concealed behind broad storefront that wraps and the ch. Montg. St. corner of the bldg. The door is set obliquely to the corner.

This house is interesting for its unusual corner configuration. It was built by Orman Jarvis on land leased to him by John Eager Howard. Jarvis was a grocer and it is quite probable that he operated a grocery at this location sometime before he sold the property to a Thomas Smith in 1816. Smith was a carter and he continued to live in the house until his death in the late 1830's.

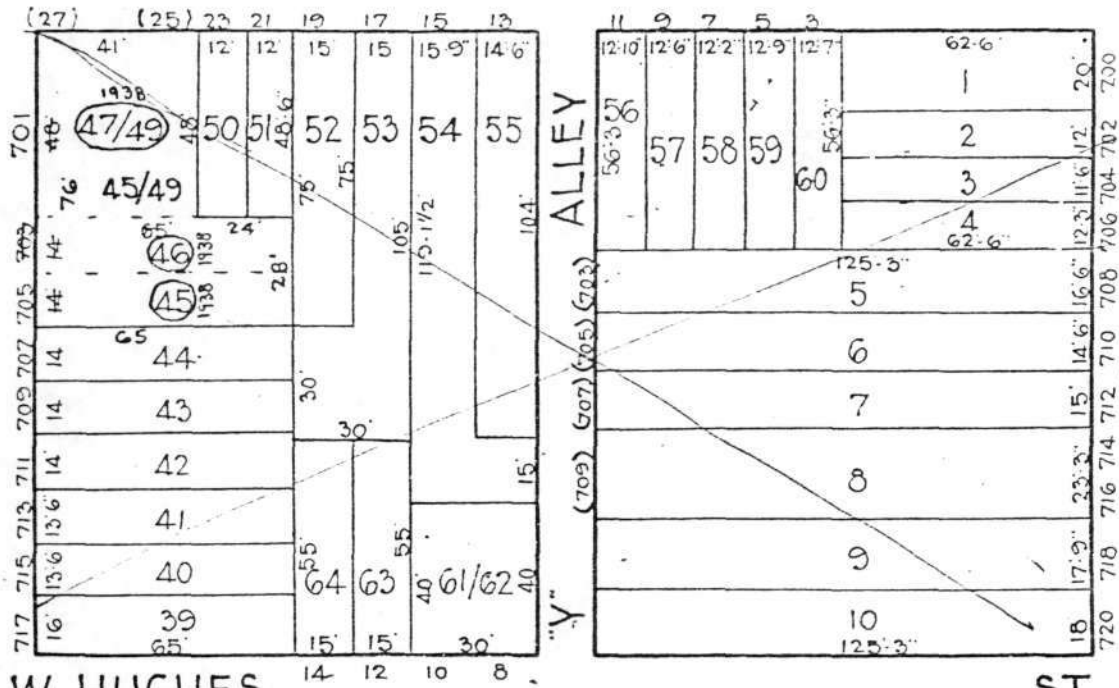
The house is important because it is one of the few surviving eighteenth century structures on this block of S. Charles St. Originally, the entire block consisted of similar 2 1/2 story houses, all of which were built between 1794 and 1797 on land leased from John Eager Howard. All but 722 S. Charles, at the opposite end of the block, were replaced by Victorian-era structures. The original owners of these small houses were all working class people associated with the ship-building trades so important to Federal Hill--ship carpenters, wheelwrights, carters, laborers, and ships' captains.

Set back 10' from the lot line of the hse. under a proper plain wooden cornice of a deep frieze area. Two 3-sided storefront windows (hip flared but now plastered over) project to either side - one facing Montg. St., one facing Charles St. supported by plain brick piers. The whole storefront area is surmounted by a plain, simply proj. cornice that wraps and the entire corner with deep frieze area.

W. HILL

ST.

ST.

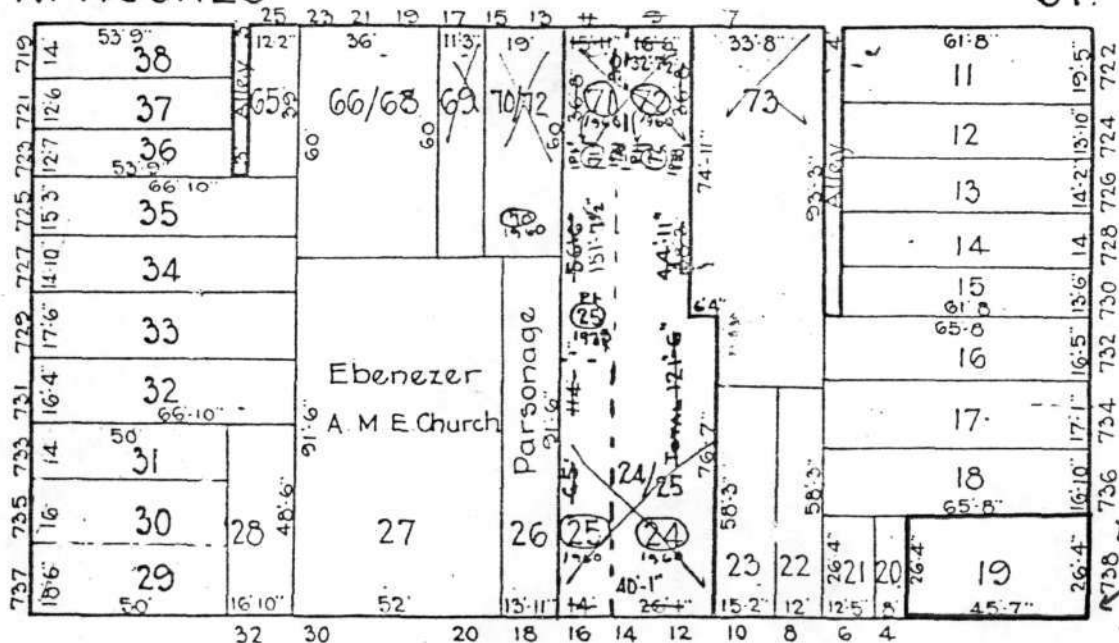


ST.

W. HUGHES

ST.

S. HANOVER



S. CHARLES

W. MONTGOMERY

ST.

B-3007
738 S. Charles Street
Block 0895 Lots 019
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3007

738 S. Charles St.

M.E.H.

4/79

South and East elevations